Amendments to the Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for restricting event subscriptions, wherein each event subscription subscribes to an event maintained by an event server, the method comprising:

receiving, at a proxy associated with the event server from a network entity, a subscription message subscribing to the event;

determining whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber; and

forwarding the subscription message to the event server if the network entity is an authorized subscriber, the network entity thereafter being capable of receiving communication from the event server in accordance with the subscription without again determining whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber.

2.   (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein determining whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber comprises checking for a match of the network entity in a list of authorized subscribers, and wherein forwarding the subscription message comprises forwarding the subscription message if a match is located.

3.   (Original) A method according to Claim 2, wherein checking for a match comprises checking for a match of a uniform resource identifier (URI) associated with the network entity with at least a partial URI in the list of authorized subscribers.

4.   (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the subscription message includes at least one of an event package description or an event type description, and wherein checking for a match further comprises checking for a match of at least one of the at least one of the event package description or the event type description in the subscription message with at least one of an event package description or an event type description associated with the at least a partial URI in the list of authorized subscribers.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising sending a list of authorized subscribers to the proxy before receiving the subscription message, wherein the list of authorized subscribers identifies the event server and at least one authorized subscriber, and wherein at least one authorized subscriber is identified by at least one of a uniform resource identifier (URI) associated with the at least one authorized subscriber, an event package description associated with a subscription message, or an event type description associated with a subscription message.

6.   (Original) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising confirming reception of the subscription message, from the event server to the network entity, if a match is located and the subscription message is forwarded to the event server.

7.   (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein receiving a subscription message comprises receiving, at a session initiation protocol (SIP) proxy, a subscription message comprising a SIP SUBSCRIBE message, and wherein forwarding the subscription message comprises forwarding the SIP SUBSCRIBE message to the event server comprising a SIP event server.

8.   (Currently Amended) A system for restricting event subscriptions, the system comprising:

an event server configured to maintain at least one event;

a network entity configured to send a subscription message subscribing to the event;

a proxy associated with the event server, and coupled between the event server and the network entity, wherein the proxy is configured to receive the subscription message; and

a filter configured to receive the subscription message from the proxy, and thereafter ~~determining~~ determine whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber, wherein the proxy is configured to forward the subscription message to the event server if the network entity is an authorized subscriber, the network entity thereafter being capable of receiving communication

from the event server in accordance with the subscription without the filter again determining whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber.

9.　(Previously Presented)　A system according to Claim 8, wherein the filter is configured to store a list of authorized subscribers, wherein the filter is configured to determine whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber by checking for a match of the network entity in the list of authorized subscribers, and wherein the proxy is configured to forward the subscription message if a match is located.

10.　(Previously Presented)　A system according to Claim 9, wherein the network entity has an associated uniform resource identifier (URI), and wherein the filter is configured to check for a match of the URI associated with the network entity with at least a partial URI in the list of authorized subscribers.

11.　(Previously Presented)　A system according to Claim 10, wherein the subscription message includes at least one of an event package description or an event type description, and wherein the filter is configured to check for a match by further checking for a match of at least one of the at least one of the event package description or the event type description in the subscription message with at least one of an event package description or an event type description associated with the at least a partial URI in the list of authorized subscribers.

12.　(Previously Presented)　A system according to Claim 8, wherein the event server is configured to send a list of authorized subscribers to the filter before the proxy receives the subscription message, wherein the list of authorized subscribers identifies the event server and at least one authorized subscriber, and wherein at least one authorized subscriber is identified by at least one of a uniform resource identifier (URI) associated with the at least one authorized subscriber, an event package description associated with a subscription message, or an event type description associated with a subscription message.

13.   (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 8, wherein the event server is configured to confirm reception of the subscription message if a match is located and the proxy forwards the subscription message to the event server.

14.   (Original) A system according to Claim 8, wherein the event server comprises a session initiation protocol (SIP) server, wherein the proxy comprises a SIP proxy, and wherein the subscription message comprises a SIP SUBSCRIBE message.

15.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for restricting event subscriptions, wherein each event subscription subscribes to an event maintained by an event server, the apparatus comprising:

a processor configured to receive, from a proxy associated with the event server, a subscription message from a network entity subscribing to the event, wherein the processor is configured to determine whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber based upon a list of authorized subscribers stored in a database, and wherein the processor is configured to indicate to the proxy whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber such that the proxy can forward the subscription message to the event server if the network entity is an authorized subscriber, the network entity thereafter being capable of receiving communication from the event server in accordance with the subscription without the processor again determining whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber.

16.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the processor is configured to determine whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber by checking for a match of the network entity in a list of authorized subscribers, and wherein the processor is configured to indicate to the proxy whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber such that the proxy can forward the subscription message to the event server if a match is located.

17.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the processor is configured to check for a match of a uniform resource identifier (URI) associated with the network entity with at least a partial URI in the list of authorized subscribers.

18.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the subscription message includes at least one of an event package description or an event type description, and wherein the processor is configured to check for a match by further checking for a match of at least one of the at least one of the event package description or the event type description in the subscription message with at least one of an event package description or an event type description associated with the at least a partial URI in the list of authorized subscribers.

19.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the processor is configured to receive the list of authorized subscribers, and thereafter storing the list of authorized subscribers in the database, wherein the list of authorized subscribers identifies the event server and at least one authorized subscriber, and wherein at least one authorized subscriber is identified by at least one of a uniform resource identifier (URI) associated with the at least one authorized subscriber, an event package description associated with a subscription message, or an event type description associated with a subscription message.

20.   (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein determining whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber comprises determining, in response to receiving the subscription message, whether the network entity is an authorized subscriber for the respective event of the event server.